the Central Government for conveyance of letters. It however, does not impose any restriction for conveyance of other articles such as packets, parcels and documents etc. by anyone including the private operators commonly known as couriers. With the approval of the Parliament the Government intends to bring in comprehensive amendment to the Indian Post Office Act, 1898, applicable to all players in the postal sector.

Electronic Telephone Exchanges in Rajasthan

5264. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to install electronic telephone exchanges in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

(c) the allocations made for the purpose for 2001 -02?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRITAPAN SIKDAR):(a)Yes,Sir.

(b) It is planned to add 351500 lines Net Switching Capacity of Wired lines and WLL (Wireless in Local Loop) in Rajasthan during 2002-2003, which will be distributed throughout the state based on demand.

(c) During 2001 -2002,249300 lines of net Capacity was allocated.

STD/ISD/PCO Booths in Rajasthan

5265. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minsiter of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that applications for STD/ISD/PCO booths in all the telecom circles of Rajasthan are pending with Government for the last two years;

(b) if so, the reasosn therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?